

ACTION ITEM

Water Board Reimbursable Agreement Contract Amendment Approval

Summary: Staff recommends that the Council approve an amendment to a reimbursable agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), increasing the amount from \$510,000 to \$1,015,882.82 and extending the term of the agreement to March 31, 2020.

Requested Action

Staff recommends the Council approve an amendment to a reimbursable interagency agreement (12-114-300) with the Water Board, increasing the amount from \$510,000 to \$1,015,882.82 and extending the term from June 30, 2018 to March 31, 2020. This agreement funds independent scientific peer reviews, advisory panels, and workshops to support the Water Board as it updates the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan).

The Executive Officer has delegated authority up to \$500,000 to enter into contracts and interagency agreements on the Council's behalf. Because this interagency "reimbursable" agreement exceeds that amount, it requires Council approval.

Background

Pursuant to its mission to provide the best possible unbiased scientific information to inform water and environmental decision-making in the Delta, the Council's Delta Science Program was engaged by the Water Board in 2013 to provide independent scientific review, advisory, and workshop services. These services are consistent with the Delta Science Plan and appendices.

Delta Plan policy ER P1 states that the Water Board shall adopt and implement updated flow objectives for the Delta in the Bay-Delta Plan. The Bay-Delta Plan is the primary document for managing flow and water quality in the Delta to balance protection of all beneficial uses. Setting new flow requirements and implementation of those requirements through an adaptive management approach will help to meet the objectives of the Delta Plan.

This agreement has provided independent scientific review and workshops to support the update of the Bay-Delta Plan. Current and future work funded by this agreement will continue to include workshops, advice, and reviews on the following topics:

- Delta-related adaptive management support
- Southern Delta salinity issues
- Review of proposed instream flow methods

This agreement has previously funded the following Delta Science Program reviews and workshops:

- Independent review for determining instream flows –February 2014
- Workshop on Delta outflows and related stressors – February 2014
- Workshop on the interior Delta flows and related stressors – April 2014
- Sacramento River temperature modeling workshop – July 2016
- Independent review of Net Delta Outflow estimation methods – September 2016
- Independent review of Sacramento Water Allocation Model (SacWAM) – October 2016
- Delta nutrient forms and ratios public workshop – November 2016

Findings from each report has supported the Water Board's efforts to protect public trust resources, including the establishment of environmental flows for the Bay-Delta and its tributaries, and has informed the current update to the 2006 Bay-Delta Plan.

The Water Board authorized this agreement up to \$1,750,000 through June 30, 2021 at its January 19, 2016 meeting. With this proposed amendment, the total amount of the contract will be \$1,015,882.82 and extended until March 31, 2020, which is within the previously approved budget and period.

Fiscal Information

Costs to be reimbursed by the Water Board are summarized below:

Water Board Reimbursable Agreement	2013-2017 Spending	2018-2020 Estimated Spending Proposed Amendment	Agreement Total
Council Staff	\$56,953.00	\$57,975.31	\$114,928.31
Indirect Costs	\$17,086.00	\$17,392.49	\$34,478.49
Operating Expenses	\$9,211.00	\$784.02	\$9,995.02
Subcontracts	\$426,750.00	\$429,731.00	\$856,481.00
Total	\$510,000.00	\$505,882.82	\$1,015,882.82

List of Attachments

No attachments.

Contact

Lindsay Correa
Program Manager

Phone: (916) 445-0092